

October 5, 2004

LICENSEE: Tennessee Valley Authority

FACILITY: Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Unit 1

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2004, MEETING REGARDING THE STATUS OF BROWNS FERRY UNIT 1 RESTART PROJECT (TAC NO. MC4035)

On September 9, 2004, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff met with Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) representatives at NRC Headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. The objective of the meeting was for TVA to inform NRC's senior managers of the status of TVA's plans and activities leading to the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (BFN) Unit 1 restart targeted for May 2007. The meeting was classified as a Category 1 meeting. Two members of the public were in attendance. Attachment 1 is a list of attendees, and Attachment 2 is a copy of TVA's handout distributed during the meeting. The handout has TVA's agenda for the meeting.

TVA representatives stated that the BFN Unit 1 restart is on schedule for startup in May 2007. Their presentation discussed the following: (1) TVA's organizational changes in that a new Nuclear Quality Assurance Manager was assigned and the quality control staffing was increased; (2) the regulatory status for BFN, Unit 1 in that 20 license amendments were identified, 12 license amendments have been submitted to date which includes the extended power uprate (EPU) submitted in June 2004; (3) a license renewal application for the three units was submitted on December 31, 2003; (4) other BFN, Unit 1 programmatic and completion submittals.

TVA's major accomplishments include the replacement of drywell structural steel, core spray piping, reactor pressure vessel safe ends, condenser tubes, turbine cross-over and cross-under piping, and flow assisted corrosion susceptible piping (carbon steel with chrome-moly). Other major works in-progress include the installation of cable trays, conduits, support, and pipe hangers; control room design modifications; turbine generator rewind; and main bank transformers. TVA's challenges are industrial safety and welding. The handout provided a status of major commodities.

In addition, TVA's representatives discussed the EPU analyses including their analysis of the steam dryer. The NRC staff expressed their concerns regarding the steam dryer cracking at several boiling-water reactors operating at the extended power level and the potential generation of loose-parts. The BFN units do not have loose-part monitoring systems, and the steam dryers are of a different design (i.e., slanted-hood vs square-hood). TVA's opinion is that their steam dryers are less susceptible to cracking than the square-hooded dryers, and additionally the steam velocity is less at BFN than at the facilities that encountered dryer cracking because the steam lines are of larger diameters.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, the NRC staff acknowledged that the meeting was beneficial.

After the conclusion of the meeting, members of the public were invited to communicate with the NRC staff. Mr. Lochbaum provided comments regarding the three licensing actions that did not have precedents, the use of the startup experiences from other facilities such as Millstone Power Station, and the adequacy of an NRC response to an allegation. The NRC staff stated that the three amendments that did not have precedents will be submitted for the three units, the staff will consider the startup experiences from other facilities, and the NRC response to the allegation was adequate.

Please direct any inquiries regarding this meeting to me at 301-415-1496 or KNJ@NRC.GOV

/RA/

Kahtan N. Jabbour, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-259

Attachments: As stated

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ATTENDANCE LIST
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF MEETING
WITH TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
AT NRC HEADQUARTERS
STATUS OF BROWNS FERRY UNIT 1 RESTART PROJECT
SEPTEMBER 9, 2004

NRC

W. Borchardt
W. Travers
B. Sheron
L. Marsh
E. Hackett
M. Marshall
M. Case
S. Cahill
M. Lesser
W. Ruland
S. Richards
K. Manoly
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S. Shaeffer
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D. Duvigneaud
R. Pettis
M. Ross-Lee
R. Hogan
R. Matthew
R. Subbaratnam
K. Jabbour

TVA

J. Rupert
R. Jones
P. Baron
J. Valente
R. Drake
T. Abney

Members of the Public

D. Lochbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists
T. Harrison, McGraw-Hill/Nucleonics Week